



Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DEBORAH R. GILG
DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

**SIOUX CITY MAN SENTENCED FOR CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE
CRACK COCAINE**

April 27, 2011

Contact: Susan Lehr, Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Chief, 402-661-3700

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg announced that Benjamin Hawthorne, 26, of Sioux City, Iowa, was sentenced on April 25, 2011, to 195 months in prison by United States District Judge Richard G. Kopf, for conspiracy to distribute cocaine and cocaine base in the Lincoln area in 2007 and 2008 and for possessing a gun in furtherance of drug trafficking. In addition to his prison term, Hawthorne will serve ten years of supervised release following his release from prison. Hawthorne was also ordered to forfeit \$9,127.00 to the government.

Hawthorne and two of his brothers, Solomon and Hubert, were involved in obtaining cocaine from sources in Kansas City, Kansas, and bringing it to Lincoln and Sioux City, Iowa, where it was made into crack cocaine. The crack cocaine was then distributed to dozens of individuals in Lincoln and Sioux City.

This case was investigated by the Lincoln Police Department.

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